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Recommendation for funding for a short-duration country programme**

Burundi

Summary

The present document contains a recommendation for funding from regular resources and other resources for the country programme of Burundi with duration of one year to support activities that will lead to the preparation of a full-length country programme. The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve the amount of $2,332,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $6,068,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for 2001.

* E/ICEF/2000/14

** The figures provided in the present document are final and take into account unspent balances of programme cooperation at the end of 1999. They will be contained in the summary of recommendations for regular resources and other resources programmes (E/ICEF/2000/P/L.27).

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Basic data

(1998 unless otherwise stated)

Child population (millions, under 18 years)	3.4
U5MR (per 1,000 live births)	176
IMR (per 1,000 live births)	106
Underweight (% moderate and severe) (1994)	37
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) (1997)	800
Literacy (% male/female) (1995)	52/33
Primary school enrolment (% net, male/female)	32/27
Primary school children reaching grade 5 (%)	
Access to safe water (%)	52
Routine EPI vaccines financed by Government (%)	2
GNP per capita (US$)	140
One-year-olds fully immunized against:	
Tuberculosis	58 per cent
Diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus	50 per cent
Measles	44 per cent
Poliomyelitis	51 per cent
Pregnant women immunized against tetanus	9 per cent

The situation of children and women

1. Burundi remains characterized by a humanitarian crisis, combined with ongoing attempts to end extended armed conflict. The human suffering which has plagued the country since the outbreak of the current crisis in late 1993 remained unabated in 2000. About 200,000 lives have been lost in the conflict since 1993, and over 1.1 million persons, or 13 per cent of the population, have been displaced internally and externally. Children and women constitute over three quarters of the war victims. In 1990, 35 per cent of rural and 32 per cent of urban populations lived in poverty. Due to the war and other factors, poverty rates have almost doubled since 1990.

2. In October 1999, the UNICEF Representative, Luis Manuel Zuniga, was killed, along with a senior official of the World Food Programme (WFP), Saskia Von Meijenfeldt, while on official mission in the province of Rutana in south-eastern Burundi. Peace talks in Arusha have continued, revitalized by the participation of Nelson Mandela since January 2000. None the less, fighting continues to affect children disproportionately, many having been displaced, wounded, killed or separated from their families.

3. Burundian women and children have some of the worst health indicators in Africa. Communicable diseases and malnutrition remain major health problems. Vaccination coverage rates have fallen dramatically. Malaria, upper respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases often go untreated due to population displacements and insecurity, the destruction of approximately one third of the rural health centres, a lack of essential drugs and other medical supplies, and the absence of qualified personnel. Levels of wasting and severe wasting of young children are among the highest in the world, and adult malnutrition is a serious problem. About 160,000 children have been orphaned by AIDS, and the rapid increase in HIV prevalence suggests that the number will grow exponentially.

4. Only 13 per cent of the displaced population had access to potable water in 1999, and only 47 per cent had access to latrines of acceptable standard. Many of the existing water and sanitary facilities were destroyed, while others lack maintenance. Women and children have been the most affected by water-borne

diseases and other sanitary problems. In education, the gross primary enrolment rate dropped from 70 per cent in 1992/93 to 62 per cent in 1998/99. Several factors impede advancement in this sector: overcrowding; a deficit of over 3,000 teachers for primary and secondary grades; and an existing corps of teachers in desperate need of training. Some 700,000 children of school age do not go to school.

5. Burundi's future depends to a large extent on developments in neighbouring countries. The one-year "bridging" programme proposed will allow UNICEF and other partners to see whether recent positive developments in the peace process will bear fruit and, thus, whether, after 2001, the programme of cooperation can support a greater range of post-emergency activities.

Programme cooperation, 2000

6. In view of the emergency situation, the current programme covers only one year. The declaration of security phase IV in October 1999 caused a suspension of all United Nations programmes for one month and serious programme restrictions thereafter until the declaration of phase III for most of the country in April 2000. One half of the international staff were evacuated during phase IV, and one half of the national staff were placed on rotational leave. A mandatory and overdue reduction of staff in early 2000 resulted in the abolishment of 40 posts. These measures obviously impeded programme progress. For instance, due to insecurity, it was not possible to set up epidemiological sentinel sites or to conduct a planned survey of vitamin A deficiency. Expanded programme on immunization mobile campaigns planned in Bujumbura Rural Province were postponed several times.

7. An important feature of the programme is the lead agency role of UNICEF nutrition and water and sanitation. The health and nutrition programme supported national immunization days (NIDs) against polio, which had a coverage rate of 93 per cent last year. The programme helped to address shortfalls in supplies of essential drugs, providing drugs for the treatment of about 1.2 million cases of the most common diseases. Iron folate supplements and tetanus immunization benefited 100,000 pregnant women. Basic kits and training were provided to traditional birth attendants (TBAs). The programme coordinated the activities of international organizations in the nutrition sector. Together with WFP and 13 non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, it supported 187 supplementary feeding centres and 28 therapeutic feeding centres, enabling the treatment of approximately 30,000 cases of moderate and 3,000 cases of severe malnutrition per month.

8. The water and environmental sanitation (WES) programme provided clean water to about 90,000 persons, and an additional 118,000 people benefited from sanitation facilities in regroupment camps. Water systems were rehabilitated for an additional 65,300 beneficiaries. Community capacity in hygiene education was strengthened through training of 35 committees, consisting of 171 members, 23 sanitation technicians and 25 local masons in 4 provinces. The programme also supported the building of 20 new latrines in primary schools, and the rehabilitation and construction of over 500 latrines in displacement camps.

9. The education programme provided building materials, school materials and furniture, making it possible for approximately 29,900 children to go to school. Teacher training focused on unqualified teachers, comprising 21 per cent of Ministry of Education teachers, and included training for 83 headmasters and school inspectors on pedagogical supervision of these teachers. National sports and athletic competitions promoted peace consciousness among pupils, and parents' committees were sensitized on their role in peace-building in communities. Support was also provided to the National Literacy Service to train 24 trainers and 100 teachers, providing didactic materials to literacy centres.

10. There was a major emphasis on child protection and the promotion of children's and women's rights. UNICEF cooperated with the National Assembly, the Association of Women Lawyers and the Burundian Association for Children and Youth's Rights to promote the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Government and NGO partners were supported in reunification activities and psychosocial assistance for unaccompanied children. Extensive media campaigns strengthened awareness of the situation of children in the Burundian conflict and rallied political commitment on NIDs and in the fight against AIDS. In cooperation with the National AIDS Control Programme and other partners, UNICEF is launching a national project on the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV. Preparations are under

way in Bujumbura and its environs to enrol 6,000 pregnant women, of which an estimated 1,200 are HIV-positive. A major accomplishment has been implementation of the multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) 2000, covering nearly 5,000 households in all provinces. The results are being analysed and will provide invaluable data for the next country programme and beyond.

Lessons learned from past cooperation

11. Security problems continue to slow implementation of many important programme activities. As a result, UNICEF will continue to face an enormous challenge in trying to ensure the uninterrupted delivery of the full range of necessary services, with priority consideration given to staff security issues. As insecurity has impeded direct contacts with grass-roots communities, UNICEF will strengthen partnerships with provincial committees and grass-roots organizations, including NGOs and civic, youth and religious groups.

12. Due to weak emergency preparedness and response at the community level, adequate measures will have to be put in place to meet the emergency needs of populations, including assistance to returning refugees and displaced families, as the peace process progresses. This will include maintaining and strengthening support for immunization activities, the provision of essential drugs, water and sanitation facilities, and nutrition supplementation.

13. The key obstacles to the promotion and protection of children's rights are linked to the present political and security situation, which does not generate an environment conducive to the respect of children's and women's rights. Protection for those most vulnerable to rights violations in conflict situations — war and AIDS orphans, street children, children growing up alone and widows — should receive primary consideration.

14. As media campaigns on special events have proven that programmes animated by and for children can influence public decisions and mobilize communities, more effective use of the media for children's participation should be promoted. In addition, UNICEF programmes should support training and policy development to focus greater attention on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Recommended programme cooperation, 2001

Estimated annual expenditure

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	Total
Regular resources	
Health and nutrition	520
Basic education/child protection	459
Water and environmental sanitation	316
Communications, rights promotion and HIV/AIDS prevention	330
Planning, monitoring and evaluation	201
Cross-sectoral costs	506
Subtotal	**2 332**

	Total
Other resources	
Health and nutrition	1 739
Basic education/child protection	1 582
Water and environmental sanitation	950
Communications, rights promotion and HIV/AIDS prevention	1 000
Planning, monitoring and evaluation	125
Cross-sectoral costs	672
Subtotal	**6 068**
Total	**8 400**

Country programme preparation process

15. The recommended one-year programme is the product of discussions held with the Government, NGOs and United Nations partner agencies. Programme priorities and strategies were finalized based on: (a) the preparation of a situation analysis of current and projected needs and possible strategies for effective intervention; (b) sectoral-level meetings with governmental, NGO and United Nations partners to ensure coordination of activities and to discuss UNICEF-prepared sectoral strategy papers and lessons learned from past programming; and (c) discussions with concerned ministries to finalize programme objectives and strategies. The discussions culminated in a one-day strategy meeting, chaired by the Minister for External Affairs and International Cooperation and attended by all government and non-government counterparts and other United Nations agencies.

Country programme goals and objectives

16. The goal of the programme of cooperation is to promote the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in Burundi, promote the values of peace and contribute to the development of a society that champions the rights of children and women. The programme will aim to: (a) ensure access to basic health care and adequate nutrition, adequate water and sanitation, and basic quality education, especially for disaster-stricken populations; (b) combat HIV/AIDS and malaria; and (c) strengthen protection measures for children with special needs.

Relation to national and international priorities

17. The central issue facing the future of Burundi is the creation and continuity of a peaceful social order. This will require the development of a culture of rights in Burundian society. The Government has submitted its initial reports on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

18. The longer-term goals of the United Nations remain the decreased dependence on humanitarian assistance, the sustainable reintegration of all conflict-affected populations and the re-establishment of the rule of law. Given the uncertain political and security situation, the United Nations will focus on ensuring that humanitarian needs are adequately met in a timely and effective manner. At the same time, the United Nations will continue to call for increased investment in sustainable reintegration and to establish the foundations of community development in the more stable areas. UNICEF will coordinate actions with other humanitarian agencies to support United Nations preparedness for an increasingly dynamic progression of humanitarian and development needs based on the return and reinsertion of 1.2 million refugees and

internally displaced persons once a ceasefire is enforced.

Programme strategy

19. The specific strategies of this one-year programme are to: (a) work towards the fulfilment, promotion and protection of children's rights through communication and social mobilization activities at all levels; (b) improve service delivery to ensure the fulfilment of the rights to education, good health and nutrition; (c) reinforce institutional and community-level capacity-building to strengthen local ability to identify, plan, execute, monitor and evaluate programmes in response to Burundi's problems; and (d) advocate at all levels for the creation of social movements for the prevention of HIV/AIDS. The current objectives and strategies will build on the current programme and establish the groundwork for the 2002-2004 programme of cooperation.

20. UNICEF will support the Ministry of Health in reducing infant and maternal morbidity and mortality. The *health and nutrition* programme will comprise three projects: (a) development of the health system; (b) maternal and child health; and (c) nutrition. Major activities will consist of: (a) the provision of 600 kits of essential drugs to 50 health centres; (b) participation in epidemic surveillance and control activities; (c) the provision of six antigens and cold chains for the vaccination of 300,000 children under one year old; (d) the training and equipping of medical personnel in primary health care, including 100 TBAs; (e) promotion of the use of mosquito nets and the provision of anti-malaria drugs; (f) the provision of special foods to 37,000 children in therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres; and (g) coordination of the nutrition, essential drugs and maternal health sub-sectors. The programme will complement the HIV/AIDS prevention project and will aim, in particular, to reduce MTCT of HIV.

21. UNICEF will continue to play its role as the lead agency in the coordination of activities in the nutrition sector and will strengthen capacity with partners and within UNICEF. It will also seek to build upon past successes to improve planning, implementation and evaluation of activities. Attention will be focused on the development of a national nutrition policy, with government leadership. Life-sustaining activities such as the supply of food and therapeutic products, and the provision of vitamin A and iron folate, will remain priority actions. Community-based growth monitoring will be reinforced in the more stable provinces. The memorandum of understanding with WFP will be extended to the end of 2001 for the provinces with emergency programmes.

22. The *basic education/child protection* programme comprises two projects: (a) basic education for peace; and (b) children in need of special protection. It aims to: (a) contribute to the achievement of a gross school enrolment rate of 71 per cent by the 2001/02 school year; (b) advance acceptance of the right of children and youths to quality education; (c) involve children, adolescents, teachers and local communities in peace education activities; (d) involve children in national efforts to stop or reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS; and (e) support children in need of special protection. Strategies will include materials production, support to the education of girls and women, and the promotion of peace education.

23. Main activities will focus on: (a) the repair and equipping of classrooms; (b) the purchase and distribution of school supplies to 30,000 students from poor families; (c) the training of 600 teachers; (d) the review of curricula and printing of school manuals for formal and non-formal education, with an emphasis on integrating peace education, HIV/AIDS and life skills; and (e) implementation of social mobilization campaigns on universal access to education, with an emphasis on girls' education. The programme will complement the rights promotion and HIV/AIDS prevention projects, and will also support implementation of community-based initiatives for children in distress affected by war and by HIV/AIDS.

24. The objective of the *WES* component is to increase access to potable water and a clean and healthy environment. The main strategy is to use appropriate technologies to reinforce the capacity of the Ministry of Community Development to coordinate, evaluate and implement water and sanitation projects in rural areas. The main activities include: (a) repairing 15 existing gravity-fed water distribution systems; (b) constructing or repairing 20 wide-diameter wells equipped with hand-pumps; (c) monitoring water quality; (d) retraining 60 community water technicians and/or members of community water boards; (e) repairing 100 latrines for communal use; (f) supporting the construction of 1,000 family latrines and the training of 50 local masons;

(g) supporting educational campaigns for health and hygiene; (h) strengthening local capacities to conduct surveys and studies, and to improve planning in the sector; and (i) providing access, on an emergency basis, to clean water, proper sanitation and hygiene supplies.

25. The programme on *communications, rights promotion and HIV/AIDS prevention* will address advocacy, education and communications with national authorities, vulnerable communities, civil society and the humanitarian assistance community for the promotion and realization of children's and women's rights. It will comprise three projects: (a) information and external relations; (b) rights promotion; and (c) HIV/AIDS prevention. The information and external relations project will increase the visibility of programmes and support advocacy for women and children. It will provide technical support for the development, implementation and monitoring of advocacy, social mobilization and programme communications strategies. It will also develop and support implementation of fund-raising strategies, and develop and maintain relations with the media in relation to press orientations and briefings, as well as special events, especially those related to the Global Movement for Children.

26. The rights promotion project will support increased awareness of the principles of children's rights to create the momentum for the identification and definition of social policies; mobilization; and community responses in favour of disadvantaged groups, particularly orphans and abused children. It will provide technical assistance to other programmes for the development of rights-based indicators. It will also seek to strengthen the capacity of all partners and ensure conformity between national legislation and the two Conventions. The HIV/AIDS prevention project will strengthen the capacities of key partners to incorporate the impact of HIV/AIDS on children and their rights in the planning and decision-making processes, with particular attention to behaviour formation. It will complement activities in both the education and health sectors.

27. *Cross-sectoral costs* will cover the costs for supply and logistics, personnel and human resources development, programme and administrative budget, quality management and control, finance services and monitoring, communications and information resources management, office support and administrative services.

Monitoring and evaluation

28. Attention will be focused on strengthening the capacities of UNICEF and its cooperating partners to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate programmes. The planning, monitoring and evaluation programme will ensure timely and correct assessment of needs of women and children, and evaluate the relevance, scope and impact of all programme activities. Rapid assessments will continue to be employed in order to determine the type and quantities of assistance needed for emergency, short-term interventions. Major activities will include data collection, research studies and training. The programme will also support the publication of the results of the MICS 2000.

Collaboration with partners

29. UNICEF continues to work to strengthen the United Nations coordination system and operational activities, including security matters, and is working with other United Nations agencies to update the Common Country Assessment. UNICEF will participate in the formulation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. In every sector of intervention, UNICEF will continue to work closely with a wide range of NGOs and the donor community to conduct assessments, deliver services and improve infrastructure. In particular, collaboration with WFP, the Association of Women Lawyers, the Burundian Association of Children and Youths Rights, and the National AIDS Control Programme will be enhanced. Support from the Governments of Norway, Denmark, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy and France, as well as from the European Union and the Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance and others will continue to enable greater collaboration and enhanced programme implementation in many of the above areas.

Programme management

30. The line technical ministries, under the general coordination of the Burundian Ministry for External Affairs and International Cooperation, will be

responsible for programme execution. Programme reviews will be conducted biannually to monitor both programme and management performance through the use of over 40 indicators. To help ensure adequate funding, the country team will continue to provide regular activity briefings to donor representatives in Burundi and actively solicit funds from National Committees for UNICEF and donor Governments.

TABLE

COUNTRY : BURUNDI
PROGRAME : 2001

LINKAGE OF PROGRAMME BUDGET AND STAFFING/STAFF COSTS

PROGRAMME SECTION/AREAS AND FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAMME BUDGET				POSTS a/										STAFF COSTS b/		
	RR	FOR	NOR	TOTAL	D2/D1	P5/P4	P3/P2	P1/L4	P/L3	P/L2/L1	IP	NP	GS	TOTAL	IP	LOCAL	TOTAL
REGULAR RESOURCES																	
HEALTH AND NUTRITION	520,000			520,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	36,498	36,498
BASIC EDUCATION/CHILD PROTECTION	459,264			459,264	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	36,498	36,498
WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION	316,000			316,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	36,541	36,541
COM . RIGHTS FROM . HIV/AIDS PREV.	330,000			330,000	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	4	124,655	58,562	183,217
PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVAL.	201,000			201,000	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	124,655	17,947	142,602
CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS	505,736			505,736	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	196,744	196,744
TOTAL RR	2,332,000			2,332,000	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	5	11	20	249,310	382,790	632,100
OTHER RESOURCES																	
HEALTH AND NUTRITION			0 1,739,148	1,739,148	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	4	160,018	52,531	212,549
BASIC EDUCATION/CHILD PROTECTION			0 1,582,000	1,582,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	160,016	33,131	193,147
WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION			0 960,000	960,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	160,016	11,110	171,126
COM . RIGHTS FROM . HIV/AIDS PREV.			0 1,000,000	1,000,000	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	160,016	0	160,016
PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVAL.			0 124,655	124,655	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS			0 672,219	672,219	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	6	7	124,655	49,693	174,714
TOTAL OR			0 6,068,000	6,068,000	0	0	0	4	0	1	5	3	9	17	764,719	146,431	911,150
TOTAL RR & OR	2,332,000		0 6,068,000	8,400,000	0	0	0	4	2	1	7	8	20	33	1,014,029	529,221	1,543,250
SUPPORT BUDGET			Operating costs 317,290														
			Staffing		1	0	1	1	1	1	4	2	8	14	620,045	150,167	770,212
GRAND TOTAL (RR + OR + SB)					1	0	1	5	3	2	11	10	28	47	1,634,074	679,388	2,313,462
	Number of posts and staff costs																
	Current programme cycle										10	10	29	49			
	At the end of proposed programme cycle (indicative only)										11	10	30	51	1,634,074	679,388	2,313,462

RR = regular resources
OR = other resources
FOR = funded other resources
NOR = new other resources
IP = International Professional
NP = National Professional
GS = General Service
SB = support budget

a/ Each post, regardless of its funding source, supports the country programme as a whole.
b/ Includes temporary assistance and overtime.